Board of Finance Regular Meeting Minutes May 19, 2015

- 1. Call to Order: Chairman Michael Dougherty called the meeting to order at 8:06pm.
- **2. Roll Call:** Michael Dougherty, Mark Shamber, Ronald Cabana, George McCoy, Glenn Lessig, Fred Chmura, David Hosmer, David Richardson, and David Fortin all present.

Others present: Clerk Christine French, WINY reporter.

- **3. Seat Alternate if Necessary:** None needed for this meeting.
- **4. Approve Minutes from April 21, 2015 Meeting:** David Hosmer, seconded by George McCoy motioned to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2015 meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **5. Set Mil Rate for 2015-2016 Pending the Outcome of the Referendum:** Chairman Michael Dougherty announced that the budget passed. The new mil rate is 23.36, which is a .26% increase from last year's budget.

George McCoy, seconded by Ronald Cabana, motioned to set the mil rate at 23.36 for the fiscal year 2015-2016. **Motion passed unanimously.** 

- 6. Pending Outcome of Referendum Discuss Plan of Action: Not needed.
- **7. New Business:** David Richardson brought up his concerns in regards to the health insurance stipend. He believes that the stipend may be in conflict with the Affordable Care Act, as well as State and Federal law. He also feels that the language in the union contract may also be in violation of the Affordable Care Act, and State and Federal laws.

It was the consensus of the Board of Finance to contact the Town Attorney to investigate the legality of the health insurance stipend, and to further discuss this situation at the July Regular meeting. Once a ruling from the Town Attorney is received Michael Dougherty stated that the Board of Finance would than direct the Board of Selectmen on the next step to take.

David Fortin felt that the letter should ask specific questions. Fred Chmura suggested that David Richardson and Michael Dougherty draft the letter. David Richardson agreed to put together a list of questions, and get it to Michael Dougherty. Michael Dougherty also invited other members to send questions or comments to him to be included in the letter to the Town Attorney.

David Hosmer made a motion to contact the Town Attorney to see what problems there are with the Health Insurance Stipend.

Fred Chmura felt that the wording of the motion should not indicate that there was anything wrong with the stipend, but if it was in compliance with the Affordable Health Care law and other laws. David Hosmer agreed.

Fred Chmura, seconded by David Hosmer made a motion to have the Chairman submit a letter to the Town Attorney for a review of the health insurance police stipend to see if it is in compliance with State and Federal regulations, and union contracts. **Motion passed unanimously.** 

David Richardson also reminded the Board of Finance that an ethical question in regards to the health insurance stipend was brought up at the Annual Town Meeting. He feels that if the Board of Selectmen does not investigate this issue, and that the Board of Finance does not act on it, that Board of Finance is also complicit in this matter. It was decided to wait to see if the Board of Selectmen would act on this before acting further on this.

- 8. Old Business A. By-Laws Tabled Until After Budget Season: None.
- **9. Correspondence & Announcements:** Michael Dougherty announced that the next Regular Board of Finance meeting will be on July 14, 2015.
- **10. Adjournment:** David Hosmer, seconded by Glen Lessig motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted, Christine G. French Clerk